

XX.—Notes on, and Descriptions of, some Lizards with Rudimentary Limbs in the British Museum. By Dr. ALBERT GÜNTHER, F.R.S.

*Delma Fraseri.*

I have recently examined the typical specimen of *Delma Grayi* (Smith, Ill. S. Afr. Rept. pl. 76. fig. 2). It is identical with *D. Fraseri*, and there can be no doubt that it came from Australia, as supposed by Sir A. Smith himself.

I am also of opinion that *Delma Mölleri*, Lütken (Nat. Foren. Vid. Medd. 1862), is not specifically distinct. The specimen to which this name was given has the supranasal and anterior frontal of each side united into one shield, a peculiarity which I consider to be individual. Confluence of two shields into one is by no means of uncommon occurrence in this lizard; and the distinctness of the markings on the head is subject to great variation. Ten specimens in the British Museum are from Western Australia.

*Aprasia pulchella.*

All the eight specimens in the British-Museum collection (including the types) have 12 series of scales round the body, and not 14, as found by Prof. Peters (MB. Berl. Ak. 1863, p. 233). With regard to coloration, there is a gradual passage from specimens which show only a few faint rows of brownish dots to such as are ornamented with six or eight longitudinal black bands. Therefore *Aprasia octolineata* (Ptrs.) cannot be regarded as distinct from *A. pulchella* (Gray). Some of our specimens are from South, others from West Australia.

*Chelomeles pseudopus.*

Scales round the middle of the body in 22 series; about 104 scales in a longitudinal series between the fore and hind limbs. Four large præanal scales. Subcaudals not enlarged. *A longitudinal groove runs along each side of the abdomen for a distance of about 24 scales, commencing from the axil of the fore limb.* Fore limbs very short, about as long as the snout, with three rudimentary claws; hind limbs still shorter, undivided. The anterior frontal forms a rather broad suture with the rostral and vertical—this latter being bell-shaped, longer than broad. Four supraciliary shields. A pair of anterior occipitals; central occipital elongate. Seven upper labials, the third and fourth separated from the orbit by a series of shields which are as large as the labials below them. Mental as broad as the median lower labial. Ear entirely hidden. Coloration uniform.

One specimen, 14 inches long, the body measuring  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches. A portion of the tail is reproduced. It is not known where this specimen was obtained.

*Chelomeles sumatrensis.*

Scales round the middle of the body in 22 series; about 84 scales in a longitudinal series between the fore and hind limbs. Four large præanal scales; subcaudals scarcely enlarged; no longitudinal groove along the side of the abdomen. Fore limbs very short, a little longer than the snout, with two claw-like prominences; hind limbs longer than fore limbs, with a terminal claw, and a second, lateral one. The anterior frontal forms a rather broad suture with the rostral and vertical, this latter being scarcely longer than broad. Three supraciliary shields. Two anterior occipitals as long and as large as the central occipital. Six upper labials, the fourth of which enters the orbit. Mental as broad as the median lower labial. Ear entirely hidden. Uniform brown above; middle of the abdomen white; lateral scales with a brown central spot.

One specimen, from Agam, has a body  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, only about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch of the tail being preserved. We obtained it, with other reptiles, from Dr. Bleeker.

*Chelomeles reticulatus.*

Scales round the middle of the body in 24 series; about 100 scales in a longitudinal series between the fore and hind limbs. Dorsal scales larger than the others; two large præanal scales; subcaudals enlarged. No lateral groove on the side of the abdomen. All the limbs three-toed, the toes being extremely short, clawed. Fore limbs somewhat longer than the snout, and rather shorter than the hind limbs. The anterior frontal is in contact with the rostral; but the nasal shields are closely approximate. The vertical forms a short suture with the anterior frontal, and is rather longer than broad, pentagonal, the anterior side being the shortest. The anterior occipitals form a broad suture together, whilst the posterior are nearly entirely separated by the intercalated central occipital. Four supraciliary shields. Mental as broad as the median lower labial. Ear entirely hidden. Upper parts olive-coloured, finely punctulated with brown; sides and abdomen bluish white, with black lines following the edges of the scales.

One specimen, from the Clarence river, 12 inches long, sent by Mr. Krefft (no. 26): the tail is 4 inches; but a great portion of it is reproduced.

## SORIDIA and PHOLEOPHILUS.

In the British Museum there are :—

1. The types of *Soridia lineata*, Gray (1839), renamed *Præpeditus* by Duméril and Bibron. They were collected by Gilbert in Western Australia; and their Australian origin is confirmed by other specimens received by Mr. Buchanan from the same country, and by the occurrence of a second, closely allied species, *Soridia miopus* (Gthr.), in Champion Bay.

2. The types (two specimens) of *Pholeophilus capensis*, Smith (Ill. S. Afr. Rept. App. 1849). This author says, p. 15 :—“The two specimens I possess were obtained in Little Namaqua Land, and were found under a loose stone, in a burrow like what is formed by an earthworm.”

Now *all these specimens are specifically identical\**; and as I am not yet prepared to admit that so singular a form as *Soridia* is common to South Africa and Western Australia, I can at present arrive at no other conclusion but that Sir A. Smith, who does not say that he himself found the examples, received them from some other person, either at Cape Town or in England, and was misinformed as regards their locality †.

*Herpetosaura* † *inornata*.

*Lithophilus inornatus*, Smith, Ill. S. Afr. Rept. App. p. 12 (1849; generic name preoccupied).

*Herpetosaura arenicola*, Peters, Wieg. Arch. 1855, p. 48.

Scales in 20 series round the middle of the body; 104–112 scales in a series between the chin and vent. In one specimen a minute rudiment of the hind limb is visible. The very small shield behind the nostril is sometimes confluent with the first upper labial. There are three specimens in the British-Museum collection :—

a. Type of the species. S. Africa. Presented by Sir A. Smith.

b. Adult. Port Natal. Presented by the Rev. H. Calloway.

c. Half-grown. Port Natal. Purchased of Mr. T. Ayres.

*Herpetosaura atra*.

Scales round the middle of the body in 23 series; about

\* Bibron has already recognized this fact; but he thought the species to be from the Cape.

† In this respect it may be of some importance to mention that these two specimens had been previously preserved in turpentine—a method which, as Mr. Ford informs me, had been frequently adopted by one of the Verreauxs, who is known to have collected in Australia, and from whom Sir A. Smith procured many specimens.

‡ This genus, as well as *Sepomorphus caffer* (Peters, 1861), is to be added to my Synopsis of *Sepidae* in Proc. Zool. Soc. 1871, p. 240.

160 scales in a series between the chin and vent. Dorsal scales not larger than the others; four præanal scales, the two middle ones largest; subcaudals not enlarged. No trace of limbs. Frontal separated from rostral by a pair of small intervening shields, but forming a short suture with the vertical; this latter shield is subtriangular in shape, with the posterior side the longest, and forms a very broad suture with an occipital shield, which is likewise triangular, its anterior side being the longest. The first upper labial is very large, ascending to behind the nostril, which is situated in a notch of the rostral. Ear entirely hidden. Black.

One specimen, from the Zambesi, is 8 inches long, the body being  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches, and part of the tail reproduced.

XXI.—On the *Longicorn* Coleoptera of Japan.

By H. W. BATES, F.L.S.

THE large collection of Coleopterous Insects made, during a residence of five years in Japan, by Mr. George Lewis, on which the present account of the family *Longicornia* is founded, furnishes materials for enabling entomologists for the first time to form a definite idea of the nature of the Japanese fauna in this department. Hitherto the number of species of *Longicornia* recorded from these islands has not reached a score. Mr. Lewis's collection contains 103, the total number now known being 107. Of these, 62 are new species discovered by Mr. Lewis. In a former paper, on the *Geodephaga*\*, I have recorded a similar great augmentation of our knowledge due to the labours of this entomologist, the number of known Japanese species in that group having been trebled by him, and 120 new species added to science.

With regard to the nature and relations of the Insect-fauna, an analysis of the list of *Longicornia* quite confirms the leading results arrived at in the memoir on the *Geodephaga* above cited. In the introductory notes to that paper, after describing the geographical position of the Japanese archipelago, and alluding to the views of many Russian and English entomologists in favour of the fauna being considered as forming part of the great Palæarctic province, I showed that the very large mixture of tropical genera and the striking absence of characteristic European and north-temperate forms were opposed to those views. The conclusion implied was

\* Trans. Entom. Soc. 1873, part ii. p. 219.